Calendar No. 853

99TH CONGRESS
2d Session

SENATE

REPORT
99-405

PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF DAVID C. ACHESON AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

AUGUST, 14 (legislative day, AUGUST 11), 1986.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. MATHIAS, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S.J. Res. 269]

The Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 269) to provide for the reappointment of David C. Acheson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the joint resolution be agreed to.

Senate Joint Resolution 269 would provide that David C. Acheson of the District of Columbia be reappointed to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution upon expiration of his current term on December 22, 1986, for the statutory term of six years beginning on December 23, 1986.

The Board of Regents is the governing body of the Smithsonian Institution and oversees a worldwide operation of scientific exploration, education, and display and preservation of irreplaceable artifacts and works of art. The Regents appoint the Chief Operating Officer of the Institution, the Secretary, and he or she serves at the pleasure of the Board. The Regents oversee a staff of over 4,000 people and an annual operating budget of over $300 million, over fifty percent of which comes from appropriated funds.

The Board is composed of seventeen members and consists of the Vice-President of the United States, the Chief Justice of the United States, three Members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, three Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, and nine other persons appointed by Joint Resolution of the Congress. Of the nine persons

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who are not Members of Congress, two must be inhabitants of the District of Columbia, and no two of the remaining seven may be inhabitants of the same State.

The statute establishing the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution does not provide for the submission of nominees by the President or any other body. The Smithsonian Board of Regents, however, customarily identifies candidates to fill vacancies on the Board and requests that the Regents who are Members of Congress introduce joint resolutions appointing such persons. S.J. Res. 269 was introduced by Senator Barry Goldwater for himself and Senators Jake Garn and Jim Sasser, the three Senate Members of the Board of Regents.

Service as a Regent is gratituous, except for necessary traveling and other expenses in attending meetings of the Board.

HEARING

A hearing was held by the Rules Committee on August 5, 1986. Dr. Robert McCormick Adams, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, testified in support of Mr. Acheson's appointment. No testimony or statements in opposition to the appointment were received.

COMMITTEE FINDINGS

The committee considers David C. Acheson to be well qualified to serve as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution.

COST ESTIMATE

In accordance with paragraph 11(a) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the committee does not consider that enactment of Senate Joint Resolution 269 would entail any cost to the Government.

REGULATORY IMPACT

In accordance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the committee does not consider that enactment of Senate Joint Resolution 269 would have any regulatory impact.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter in support of Senate Joint Resolution 269, addressed to Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., Chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, from Robert McCormick Adams, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, enclosing a biography of David C. Acheson, follows:

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
Washington, DC, July 22, 1986.

Hon. CHARLES MCC. MATHIAS,
Chairman, Committee on Rules and Administration,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to take this opportunity to comment on S.J. Res. 269 providing for the reappointment of David

C. Acheson as citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Regents and the manner of appointment and terms of office of those other than Members of Congress are set forth in 20 U.S.C. 42 and 43. At its meeting on January 27th the Board of Regents voted to renominate Mr. Acheson and asked its congressional members to introduce and support legislation to provide for his reappointment to a statutory term of six years when his current term expires on December 22, 1986.

Mr. Acheson is a resident of Washington, D.C., and was initially appointed to the Board of Regents on December 22, 1980. He serves as a member of its Executive Committee. His biography is enclosed.

Enactment of S.J. Res. 269 would have no regulatory impact and would entail no cost to the Government. I shall, of course, be happy to furnish any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

ROBERT MCC. ADAMS, *Secretary.*

Enclosure.

Acheson, David Campion, lawyer; b. Washington, Nov. 4, 1921; s. Dean G. and Alice (Stanley) A.; B.A., Yale, 1942; LL.B., Harvard U., 1948; m. Patricia Castles, May 1, 1943; children—Eleanor Dean, David Campion, Peter Wesley. Admitted to D.C. bar, U.S. Supreme Ct. bar; with Office Gen. Counsel, AEC, 1948–49; with firm Covington & Burling, Washington, 1949–61, mem. firm, 1958–61; U.S. atty. for D.C., 1961–65; spl. asst. to sec. treasury, 1965–67; v.p., sr. v.p., gen. counsel Communications Satellite Corp., 1967–74; partner Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue, Washington, 1974–78, Drinker Biddle & Reath, Phila. and Washington, 1978—. Democrat. Episcopalian. Clubs: Metropolitan, Yale (Washington); Century Assn. (N.Y.C.) Home: 3101 Garfield St. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008 also South Yarmouth MA 02664 Office: 1815 H Street, N.W., Suite 1200, Washington, D.C. 20006.

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